

Brodie whether it would not be worth while to try the value of this medicine in those cases of unusual and unnatural accumulation of fat in different parts of the body which sometimes occur. Mr. Brodie answered that it would be a remedy well worth trying in such cases. A man servant came to the hospital, some years since, as an out-patient under Mr. Brodie. He had two large pendulous masses of fat occupying the anterior surface of the neck, between the lower jaw and upper part of the chest, and posteriorly covering the nuchæ. This abnormal growth was a great calamity to him, as, from his appearance, no one would ever engage him as servant. He took the liquor potassæ in doses of from ʒj. to ʒiiss. ter in die for some time, and the growth of this swelling slowly diminished down to such a size as to prove no longer a source of uneasiness or disfiguration to him. Some time afterwards Mr. Brodie saw this man, and the tumour at the fore part and back of the neck had so nearly disappeared as to enable him to follow his usual occupation. Mr. Brodie had another case nearly similar to the above, in which the same good results followed the intercal exhibition of the liquor potassæ. There also sometimes arise different collections of fat under the skin, unequal in size, and having no defined margin or edge; and in these cases the exhibition of this medicine is equally useful.

The patient has continued taking the liquor potassæ; no material benefit has yet resulted from it, there not having been sufficient time. He complains that the medicine "binds him up," and he was therefore ordered:—R. Pilulæ hydragyræ; Extracti colocynthid. comp.; Extracti hyoseyami, ʒā ʒj. misce. Fiat massam, in pilul. xij. divid., quarum sumat i. o. n. h. s.

Mr. Brodie observed, that this prescription was a very useful one, and of particular service to patients who were taking the liquor potassæ. The medicine has agreed with this patient very well hitherto, but no decided effect has as yet resulted in regard to the diminished growth of the tumours. He does not suffer in his general health, and his bowels are purged occasionally by a dose of house physic.—*Lond. Med. and Surg. Journ. March 15th, 1834.*

38. *Urinary Syphon.*—The *Lancet*, for September 27th last, furnishes the following description of a syphon for drawing off the urine, invented by Mr. LAWREN, a young American. "The apparatus consists of two tubes and a vase; one is a gum elastic tube, several feet long; near the middle of this is fixed another small tube, less than the moiety of the large one, and of inferior diameter; it is mounted on a cork, which is fitted to the vase containing water. The fluid in the vase tends to pass through the small tube into the inferior half of the greater one, whenever the latter is on a lower level. Let us suppose the superior half of the great tube attached to a catheter, and introduced into the bladder—the vase placed on a chair by the patient's bed side, and the other extremity of the tube hanging into a basin, &c. A current is established by suction along the smaller tube and from the vase. As soon as the current reaches the inferior moiety of the great tube, a vacuum is established in the part which has been passed into the bladder, and the urine runs out to the last drop. The suction is so strong, that we have seen the tube take up a single drop of water from the chimney-piece of the author's apartment."

39. *Amputation of the Neck of the Uterus.*—M. LISFRANC, in a memoir recently read before the Academy of Sciences of Paris, and published in the *Gazette Médicale*, for 21st of June, 1834, states that he has amputated the neck of the uterus affected with cancer in ninety-nine cases, eighty-four of which were cured, and fifteen died, among the latter he includes the cases of relapse. He further states, that all his unsuccessful cases were in women, in whom the disease was far advanced.

40. *Application of the Dynamometer and Pulley to the Treatment of Luxation.*—Dr. SEDILLOT, in a memoir recently presented to the Academy of Medicine of Paris, and published in the *Gazette Médicale* of 23d of August last, recom-

mends the employment of the dynamometer and pulleys in the treatment of fractures. The use of the former instrument permits the surgeon to ascertain with mathematical precision the extending power he employs, whether resulting from the efforts of assistants, or the action of pulleys, and the force being thus submitted to calculation, the pulleys, he thinks, may be advantageously substituted for manual assistance; the former allowing of a more equal, graduated, or permanent extension, without the oscillations and jerks which occur when manual assistance is used.

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41. *Case of Lithotomy and Lithotripsy in the same Individual.*—The *Gazette Médicale de Paris*, of the 23d of August last, contains an interesting case of urinary calculus, in which the patient, within the space of six years, was once cut for the stone and four times subjected to lithotripsy. This case occurred in the practice of M. Amussat, and is related by Dr. PHILLIPS. The patient was a man, 55 years of age, of sedentary habits, who, in 1827, was affected with gravel followed by vesical catarrh. M. Huerteloup, after eight sittings, the last of which was in August, 1828, relieved him of his symptoms. The instrument employed was the three-branched forceps, and the pain experienced by the patient was nearly equal to what he afterwards suffered from lithotomy. In 1831, this patient, suffering under a return of his complaint, came under the care of M. Amussat, who in September performed the operation of lithotripsy with the forceps with five branches. The patient suffered much from the operation, but for a short time seemed relieved from his complaint. Two months after this second operation, however, the patient was attacked with nephritic fever and a return of his calculous symptoms, and exhausted by his sufferings and weary of life, he determined this time to undergo the operation of lithotomy. This was performed by M. Amussat, and two calculi, one the size of a pigeon's egg, and the other of a French bean, extracted. The bladder was explored with the greatest care, and no fragments discovered in it. The patient's recovery was rapid, and in fifteen days he was able to walk in his garden. His health daily improved, and he supposed himself to be permanently relieved from his troubles; but his hopes were soon destroyed by the reëpearance of his old symptoms. In July, 1833, M. Amussat once more operated upon the patient, and again in August. The instrument employed in this second sitting, resembled the *brise-pierre* of M. Huerteloup, but in place of a groove to receive the superior branch, there was a tube in which the inferior branch slid. The patient was relieved, his spirits returned, and he resumed his business. Six or eight months afterwards, the patient was again attacked with his former symptoms, and he again sought M. Amussat, who in July operated upon him for the fifth time. Four sittings were necessary, and at the time the report was written the patient had ceased to pass any fragments of calculi with his urine, and was rapidly convalescing. The operation, this time, was performed with a new instrument, devised by M. Amussat, which we could not make intelligible to our readers by a verbal description. The action of this instrument was so simple, that the patient states he would rather undergo a sitting of lithotripsy, than have a tooth extracted.

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42. *Imperforate Anus—New Operation for its Cure.*—M. Roux, of Brignolles, was called in consultation, May 15th, 1833, to visit a new-born child, in whom no trace of anus could be discovered in the perinæum, either by the finger or eye; the rectum terminated at the ureter, and this last, closed at its extremity by a membrane, was pierced below the penis by a kind of hypospadias. The penis was in a state of erection. The first cries of pain had been succeeded by hiccup and vomiting. The physician first called had divided the membrane which closed the urethra, and he had not ventured to search for the anus. Notwithstanding the difficulty of this operation in such circumstances, M. Roux placed the infant upon the knees of an assistant, divided the skin to the extent of eight lines, where the anus ought to have been situated, and exposed the